

REMARKS

By this Amendment the specification has been amended to better conform with U.S. practice and claims 1-6 have been amended to better define the intended subject matter and to overcome the examiner's criticisms of the claims. Entry is requested.

In the outstanding Office Action the examiner has rejected claim 1 and 2 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jensen in view of Pfann et al., and he has stated that claims 3-6 contain allowable subject matter.

The inventors believe that all the amended claims are allowable. Jensen, which is thoroughly discussed on pages 1 and 2 of this application, discloses a linear actuator which includes a braking spring 20 around a cylindrical element 28 of a worm wheel and into which a cylindrical piece 32 at the end of a spindle 6 extends. There is no metal insert inside the cylindrical element 28 to remove heat.

Pfann et al. disclose a combined electric motor and brake wherein the electric motor includes a metallic end shield 4 through which the shaft 5 of the motor extends and around which the brake is positioned (on the outer side of the end shield), the brake including a rotor 20 having a friction sheet 6, a magnet 17 with a coil 11 and spring 12. The end shield 4 is capable of transferring away heat generated at the friction sheet 6 during braking.

The examiner asserts that, based on the use of a heat conveying end shield 4 in Pfann et al., it would be obvious to include a metallic insert in the cylindrical element 28 of Jensen. This is totally without merit as Jensen does not even suggest that frictional heat generation within the cylindrical element 28 is a problem that needs correction. The examiner's rejection here is clearly (and inappropriately) based on a hindsight evaluation of the presented claims.

All the claims should be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,

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2/2

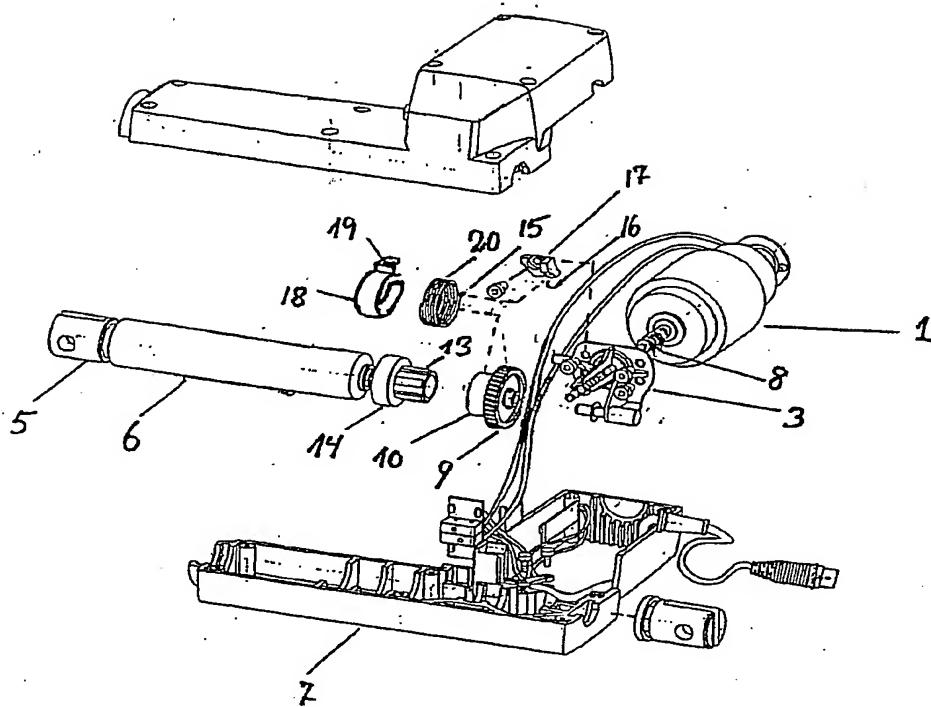


Fig. 2

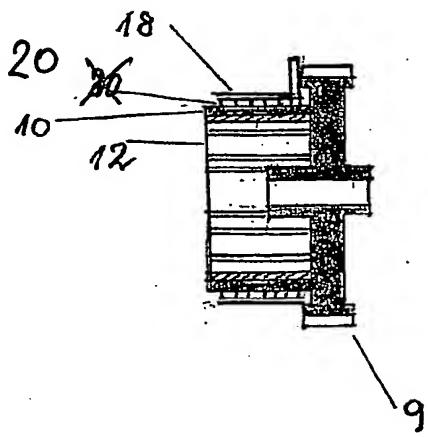


Fig. 3